

One-eyed dog crosses country with Agawam owner - stopping at American landmarks - to promote animal rights

Updated May 5, 2015 at 8:42 AM; Posted May 4, 2015 at 6:33 AM

30

Gallery: Flurry the rescue dog tours America



Gallery: Flurry the rescue dog tours America

By [Carolyn Robbins](#)

crobbins163@gmail.com

Special to The Republican

This story was updated with new details at 8:35 a.m. on Tuesday.

SPRINGFIELD — American Eskimo rescue dog Flurry has only one eye, but oh the places she's seen and the people's she's met along her cross-country travels from the front seat of her owner's red Mazda Miata convertible.

Flurry, a jaunty 12-year-old dog, and her owner, Sarah Oulton of Agawam, drove through 48 states in 72 days in the fall of 2014, taking in the sights including such landmarks as Mount Rushmore, the Grand Canyon and the Washington D.C. monuments.

But the trip was much more than a sight-seeing adventure.

It was a journey to raise awareness about the plight of animals like Flurry, who was found in 2007 roaming the streets of New York City with a bloody head and one eyeball hanging by a thread. Along their odyssey, Oulton took photos, conducted research and met with animal advocates around the country in preparation for a book she is writing.

The best of the hundreds of photographs Oulton took of Flurry along their road trip are destined to appear in an animal law book Oulton, a 2012 [Western New England University](#) Law School graduate, is writing with co-authors Mark and Andrea Baer. Mark is a real estate investor and Andrea is a teacher in the public schools in their hometown of Framingham.

Oulton, who is co-founder of the Animal Law Association at the law school, said 100 percent of proceeds from the sale of the book will go to three organizations providing shelter and rescue services for animals and to Western New England's law school to fund a chair in animal law.

"Everywhere we went, people were so helpful," she said, adding that once they understood that she was writing a book to raise animal issues, they sent her to the front of the line to pose Flurry for her portfolio.

Armed with her AAA road map, little time was spent in any one place, with Oulton and Flurry spending nights in pet-friendly hotels and truck stops that had showers.

The folks at Balise Mazda helped sponsor the trip, getting Oulton's Miata in shape for the 17,164 miles it took her to accomplish the journey and providing on-call services should any problems arise.

"They made me feel like they were in the trunk," she said on Balise's website. "I felt like I knew they had my back and that's what made it OK."

Fast friends made at the start of her adventure and along the way include [Lisa Vanderpump](#), British philanthropist and star of "Vanderpump Rules" and "The Housewives of Beverly Hills" and Patricia Altschul, star of "Southern Charm."

Vanderpump heard about Flurry and invited Oulton to bring the dog to her book-signing in 2011 in New York City. It was Oulton's meeting with Vanderpump where the idea for cross-country idea was hatched with Vanderpump's encouragement. "It all started there," Oulton said. "Lisa is such a wonderful person and animal lover."

One of Flurry's photos was taken at Lisa's star on the Palm Springs Walk of Stars and along the trip the pair met several other stars of the "Housewives" series in other cities.

The pair spent what Oulton called "a magical day" at Altschul's historic mansion. While there, they visited a Huguenot Church in Charleston for a "Blessing of the Animals" event that coincided with Flurry's visit.

Oulton said she came back from her trip buoyed by the sense of kindness and generosity she experienced along the way.

Flurry was rescued by Manhattan Animal Control and had eye surgery financed by the kindness of donors.

After two placements with owners that didn't fit, Oulton was looking on "Eskies Online" to find a companion for her aging American Eskimo dog, Powder.

The match was a winner. "Even a rescue dog with a traumatic history and a failed placement can become well-trained," she said.

Oulton has been animal-lover since she was a child. She adopted a rescue dog – an "eskie" like Flurry – as a teenager. She worked at shelters and as a veterinarian technician and earned an undergraduate degree in zoology from [University of Massachusetts](#) at Amherst.

Oulton and her co-authors are half-way through writing their animal law book and are talking with two potential publishers. "I hope to be at a book party in the South by next winter," she said.

Before book proceeds begin rolling in, Oulton has set up a [crowd funding](#) GoFundMe in the hopes of raising funds for her causes sooner rather than later.

Flurry's web site is www.oneeyedflurry.org

And the proposed cover for the new animal law book? A picture of Flurry on the steps of the U.S. Supreme Court, of course.

Flurry the rescue dog tours America

Posted on May 1, 2015 2:49 PM | Updated May 1, 2015 9:25 PM



1 / 30

Mark M. Murray | mmurray@repub.com

Flurry the rescue dog tours America

Sarah Oulton, with her dog Flurry, her one eyed rescue dog which she toured 48 states in 72 days in her red sports car. They are parked at the Western New England University Law School. (MARK M.MURRAY / THE REPUBLICAN)



2 / 30

Mark M. Murray | mmurray@repub.com

Flurry the rescue dog tours America

Flurry, the one eyed rescue dog which toured 48 states in 72 days with owner Sarah Oulton in the red sports car. They are parked outside the Western New England University Law School.

(MARK M.MURRAY / THE REPUBLICAN)



3 / 30

Mark M. Murray | mmurray@repub.com

Flurry the rescue dog tours America

Sarah Oulton, with her dog Flurry, her one eyed rescue dog which she toured 48 states in 17 days in her red sports car. At right is Mark Baer, the co-author of the animal law book that she is writing
(MARK M.MURRAY / THE REPUBLICAN)

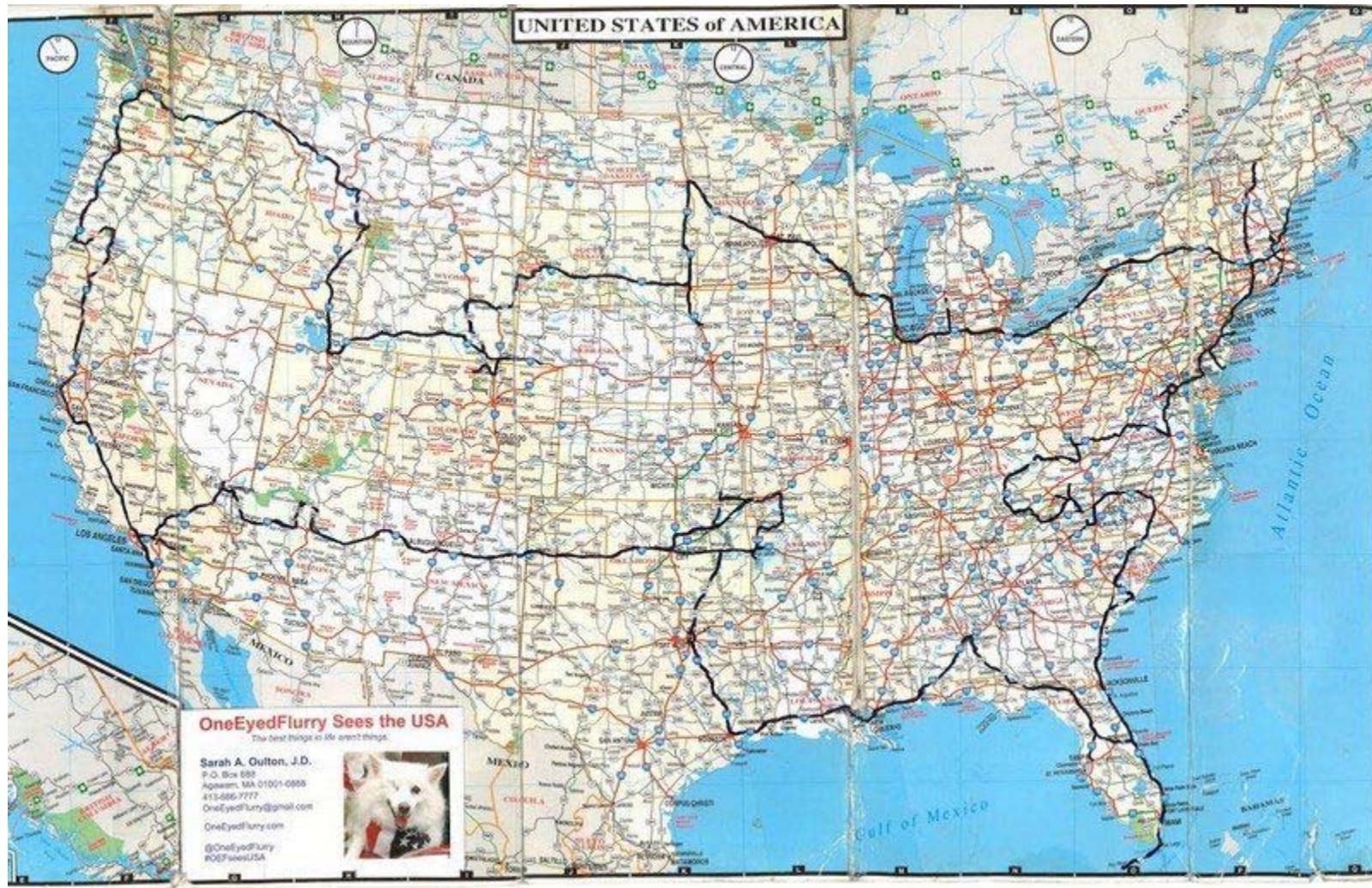


4 / 30

Mark M. Murray | mmurray@repub.com

Flurry the rescue dog tours America

Flurry at the Mount Rushmore-Keystone, SD.
(PHOTO BY SARAH OULTON)



Mark M. Murray | mmurray@repub.com

Flurry the rescue dog tours America

A map of the U.S. showing the route Sarah and Flurry took



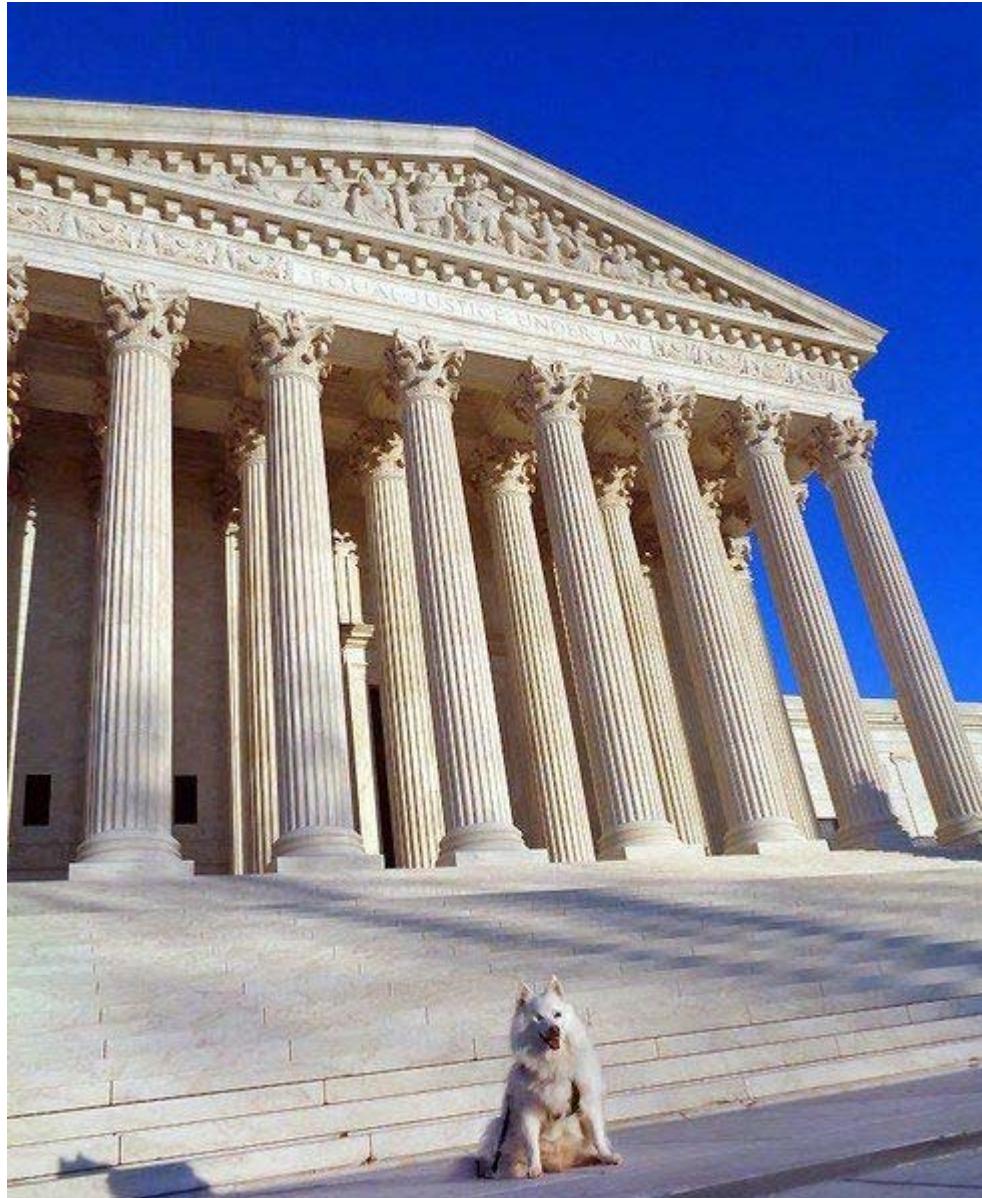
6 / 30

Mark M. Murray | mmurray@repub.com

Flurry the rescue dog tours America

Flurry with Lisa Vanderpump in West Hollywood.

(PHOTO BY SARAH OULTON)



7 / 30

Mark M. Murray | mmurray@repub.com

Flurry the rescue dog tours America

Flurry at the U.S. Supreme Court in Washington D.C.
(PHOTO BY SARAH OULTON)



8 / 30

Mark M. Murray | mmurray@repub.com

Flurry the rescue dog tours America

Flurry at the Great Salt Lake, Magna UT.

(PHOTO BY SARAH OULTON)



9 / 30

Mark M. Murray | mmurray@repub.com

Flurry the rescue dog tours America

Flurry at the Michael Jacksons' childhood home in Gary Indiana.

(PHOTO BY SARAH OULTON)



10 / 30

Mark M. Murray | mmurray@repub.com

Flurry the rescue dog tours America

Flurry at the Rosa Parks Bus Stop in Montgomery AL
(PHOTO BY SARAH OULTON)



11 / 30

Mark M. Murray | mmurray@repub.com

Flurry the rescue dog tours America

Flurry with Patricia Altschul, star of Bravo's Southern Charm.

(PHOTO BY SARAH OULTON)



12 / 30

Mark M. Murray | mmurray@repub.com

Flurry the rescue dog tours America

Flurry in Las Vegas, NV

(PHOTO BY SARAH OULTON)



13 / 30

Mark M. Murray | mmurray@repub.com

Flurry the rescue dog tours America

Flurry with little Taylor Callahan, the 9-year old founder of KEWL - KEEPING ELDERLY WITH LOVED ONES. Facebook Page is here: <https://www.facebook.com/kewl4pets> Flurry was proud to attend KEWL's kickoff event in 2014, at which Taylor collected three trucks full of pet food, litter, and supplies for local needy animal owners. Taylor is an amazing, kind-hearted little kid, and her group is one of the project's beneficiaries. She and her family devote their hearts and souls to making the world better for animals and people, so we partnered with the Callahan family to keep the good work moving forward. (PHOTO BY SARAH OULTON)



14 / 30

Mark M. Murray | mmurray@repub.com

Flurry the rescue dog tours America

Flurry at the Space Needle Seattle Wa.

(PHOTO BY SARAH OULTON)



15 / 30

Mark M. Murray | mmurray@repub.com

Flurry the rescue dog tours America

Flurry at the home of Walter White, the main character from Breaking Bad. She's wearing the Heisenberg hat in the picture.
(PHOTO BY SARAH OULTON)



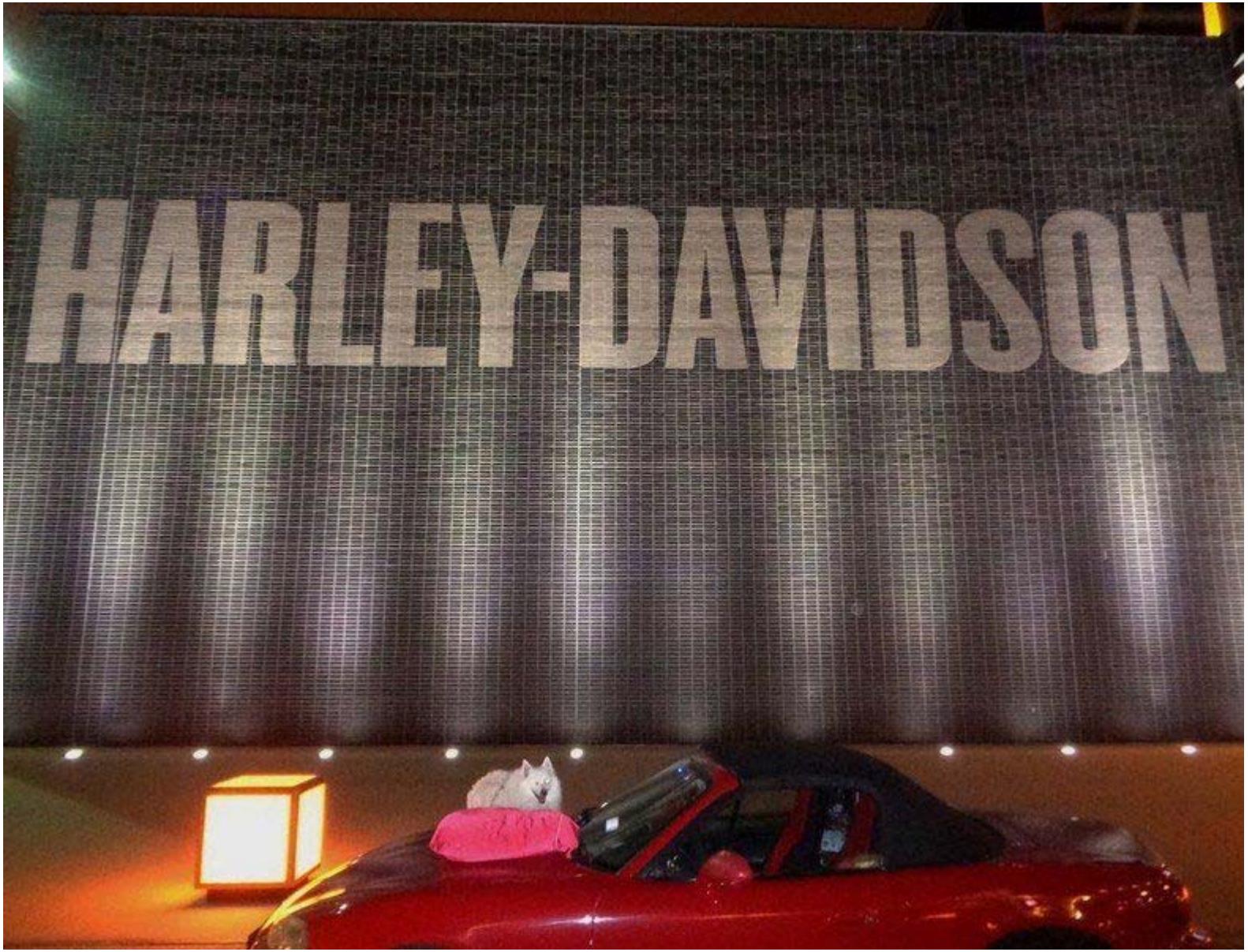
16 / 30

Mark M. Murray | mmurray@repub.com

Flurry the rescue dog tours America

Flurry at the the Grand Canyon, AZ

(PHOTO BY SARAH OULTON)



17 / 30

Mark M. Murray | mmurray@repub.com

Flurry the rescue dog tours America

Flurry at the Harley Davidson Museum, Milwaukee, WI
(PHOTO BY SARAH OULTON)



18 / 30

Mark M. Murray | mmurray@repub.com

Flurry the rescue dog tours America

Flurry at the Southernmost Point Buoy in Key West, FL
(PHOTO BY SARAH OULTON)



19 / 30

Mark M. Murray | mmurray@repub.com

Flurry the rescue dog tours America

Flurry at the Fargo Movie Wood Chipper, autographed by the Coen Brothers in Fargo, ND
(PHOTO BY SARAH OULTON)



20 / 30

Mark M. Murray | mmurray@repub.com

Flurry the rescue dog tours America

Flurry at the Yellowstone National Park ,West Yellowstone, MT

(PHOTO BY SARAH OULTON)



21 / 30

Mark M. Murray | mmurray@repub.com

Flurry the rescue dog tours America

Flurry at the US-Canada border, Pittsburg NH

(PHOTO BY SARAH OULTON)



22 / 30

Mark M. Murray | mmurray@repub.com

Flurry the rescue dog tours America

Flurry at the Disneyland in Anaheim, CA

(PHOTO BY SARAH OULTON)



23 / 30

Mark M. Murray | mmurray@repub.com

Flurry the rescue dog tours America

Flurry at the Mazda North American Headquarters in Irvine, CA
(PHOTO BY SARAH OULTON)

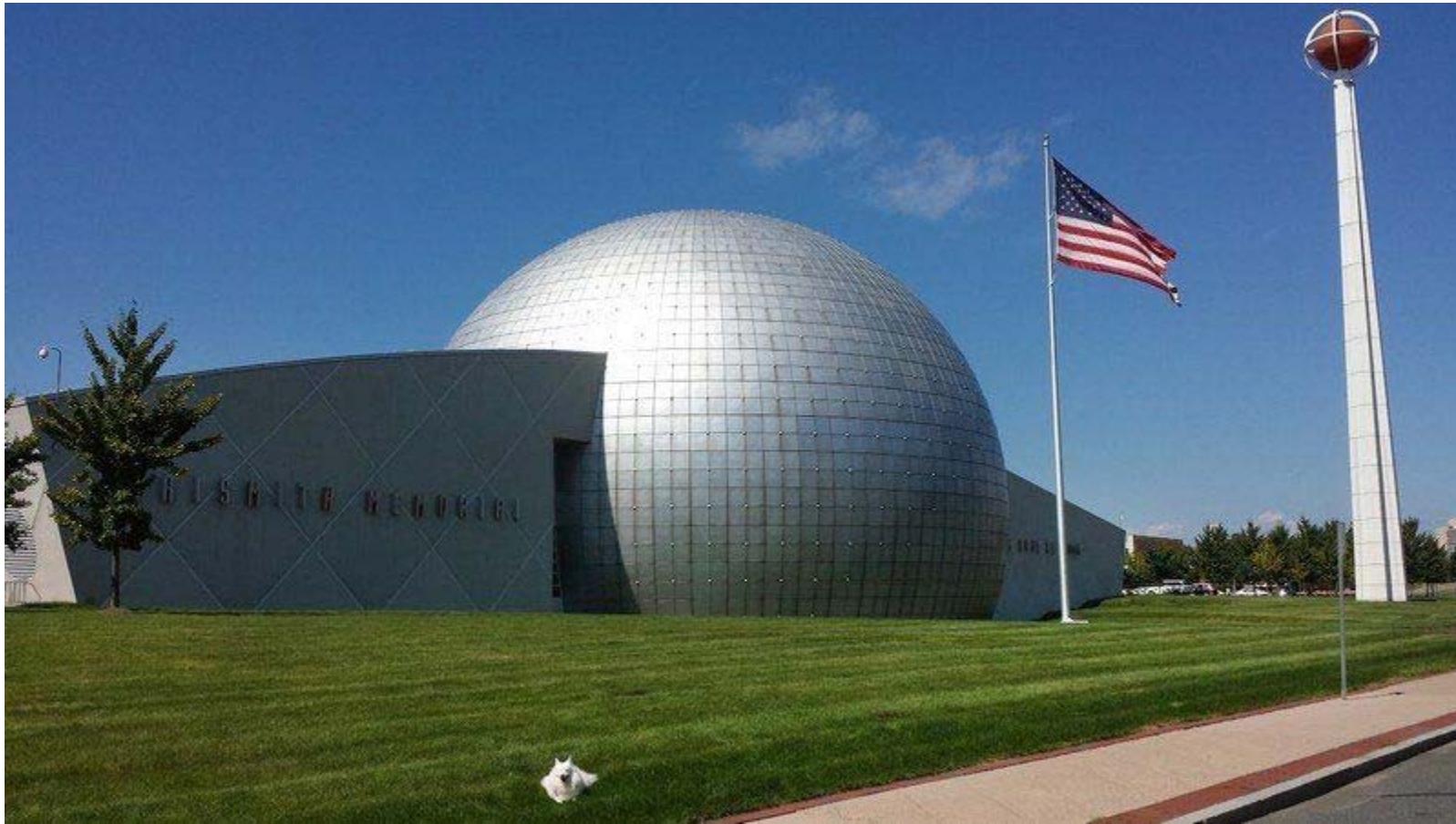


24 / 30

Mark M. Murray | mmurray@repub.com

Flurry the rescue dog tours America

Flurry at the DisneyWorld in Orlando, FL
(PHOTO BY SARAH OULTON)



25 / 30

Mark M. Murray | mmurray@repub.com

Flurry the rescue dog tours America

Flurry at The Basketball Hall of Fame in Springfield, MA

(PHOTO BY SARAH OULTON)



26 / 30

Mark M. Murray | mmurray@repub.com

Flurry the rescue dog tours America

Flurry at the AAA office in West Springfield, MA
(PHOTO BY SARAH OULTON)



27 / 30

Mark M. Murray | mmurray@repub.com

Flurry the rescue dog tours America

Flurry at the end of her road trip

(PHOTO BY SARAH OULTON)



28 / 30

Mark M. Murray | mmurray@repub.com

Flurry the rescue dog tours America

Sarah Oulton, with her dog Flurry, her one eyed rescue dog which she toured 48 states in 72 days in her red sports car.
(MARK M.MURRAY / THE REPUBLICAN)



29 / 30

Mark M. Murray | mmurray@repub.com

Flurry the rescue dog tours America

Sarah Oulton, with her dog Flurry, her one eyed rescue dog which she toured 48 states in 72 days in her red sports car, they are parked outside the Western New England University Law School.

(MARK M.MURRAY / THE REPUBLICAN)



30 / 30

Mark M. Murray | mmurray@repub.com

Flurry the rescue dog tours America

Sarah Oulton, with her dog Flurry, her one eyed rescue dog which she toured 48 states in 72 days in her red sports car, they are parked outside the Western New England University Law School.

(MARK M.MURRAY / THE REPUBLICAN)

https://www.masslive.com/news/index.ssf/2015/05/one-eyed_dog_flurry_and_owner.html

One-eyed dog crosses country [+/-](#)

https://www.masslive.com/news/index.ssf/2015/05/one-eyed_dog_flurry_and_owner.html

Comments

Sign in to join the conversation

Powered by  viafoura

MOST LIKED  NEWEST

Follow  6 comments

 Mark C. Volain | Mvolain@Masslive.Com  3 years ago

[follow](#)

Cool story! Sounds like a fun trip!

 0  0  

 Jack Flynn | Jflynn@Repub.Com  3 years ago

[follow](#)

Carolyn: Great story. I hope you get to play yourself when they turn this into a movie.

 0  0  

One-eyed dog crosses country X

https://www.masslive.com/news/index.ssf/2015/05/one-eyed_dog_flurry_and_owner.html

Comments

Carolyn Robbins | Crobbins@Repub.Com 3 years ago

AUTHOR

[follow](#)

Sarah Oulton is an inspiration to all animal lovers. And Flurry is one lucky dog. Sarah's creating a web site www.OneEyedFlurry.com for her charity that will benefit 3 animal shelter rescue organizations and help fund a chair in Animal Law at Western New England University Law School. Check out her GoFundMe page. Such a worthy cause.

^ 0 ^ 0 ← ...

Jurisgal 3 years ago

[follow](#)

Great story! Happy National Pet Week! !

^ 0 ^ 0 ← ...

One-eyed dog crosses country [View](#) [Edit](#) [Delete](#)

[+ Add Comment](#)

[Comments](#) [Report](#)

[^ 0](#) [v 0](#) [Reply](#) [More](#)

Richardcrowley2  3 years ago

still a happy doggy the way doggies should be, just happy!!!!

[^ 0](#) [v 0](#) [Reply](#) [More](#)

DrexL_Spivey  3 years ago

Great story, lucky you Flurry ...

[^ 0](#) [v 0](#) [Reply](#) [More](#)